## REMARKS

1. Allowance of claims 1, 3, 4 and 8, as now presented, is believed to be in order and such action is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner be of the opinion that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of the subject application, he is respectfully requested to telephone applicant's undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

WELSH & KATZ, LTD.

Βv

Non P. Christensen Registration No. 34,137

February 19, 2004 WELSH & KATZ, LTD. 120 South Riverside Plaza 22nd Floor Chicago, Illinois 60606 (312) 655-1500